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MEDIA ADVISORY: HEAVY MAIL VOTING COULD AFFECT UNOFFICIAL ELECTION RESULTS

(**SPRINGFIELD**, Nov. 2, 2020) – With record-setting vote-by-mail volume in the 2020 general election, the Illinois State Board of Elections advises media and voters to be aware that unofficial vote totals reported on election night may change significantly in the two weeks to follow.

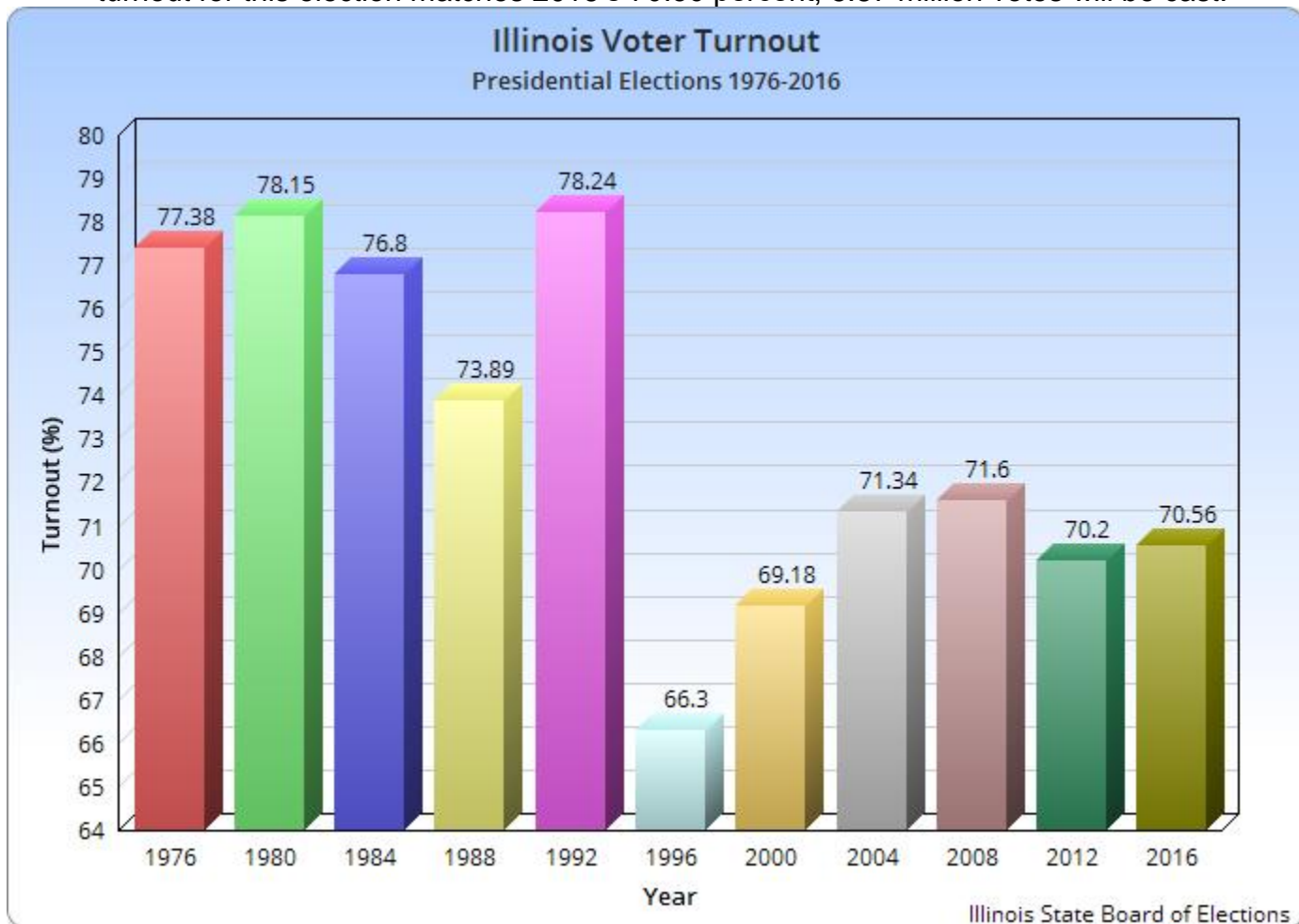
As of Nov. 2, Illinois' 108 local election authorities reported up to 587,000 mail ballots that had not yet been returned by voters. While some of these ballots will arrive in time to be processed and included in election night reporting, many are likely to arrive after Election Day and be added to unofficial totals. Illinois allows ballots that are postmarked no later than Election Day to arrive and be counted for two weeks afterward, so totals could change through Nov. 17.

The Illinois State Board of Elections will regularly update the statewide totals for mail ballots [on its website](http://www.elections.il.gov), but does not report any election results until it certifies the vote on Dec. 4. Unofficial results before certification may be obtained from [local election authorities](#).

The following background information may be useful to news media covering election results in the two weeks to come:

- As of Nov. 2, Illinois election authorities had sent 2.35 million ballots to voters and 1.76 million of those ballots had been returned by voters. (The complete report, including totals from individual election authorities, is attached following this release.)
- With 1.83 million in-person early votes cast as of Nov. 2, Illinois had cast nearly 3.6 million votes before Election Day.
- In 2016, voters cast 370,740 votes by mail and 1,520,694 in-person early votes, for a total of 1,891,434 votes cast before election day.
- Illinois has more than 8.3 million registered voters for the 2020 general election, which is an all-time record. Unofficial pre-election reports indicate that 43 percent of registered voters have already voted.
- The constitutional amendment on this year's ballot can pass if it receives 60 percent approval from voters who vote on the question or a simple majority of affirmative votes among all ballots cast in the election. Because of this formula, the fate of the amendment may not be known on election night even when accounting for mail ballots not yet returned.

- As mail ballots arrive in the days after Nov. 3, it is likely that close races may see leads change as results are reported. Reporters should check with local election authorities for updated vote counts and make readers, viewers and listeners aware of why these numbers are changing.
- The certification schedule after Election Day is as follows:
 - Nov. 17: Local election authorities must complete counting of mail and provisional ballots
 - Nov. 24: Local election authorities must transmit results to the State Board of Elections
 - Dec. 4: State Board of Elections certifies the vote and publishes official results
- From 1976-2016, turnout in presidential elections in Illinois has averaged 73 percent. If statewide turnout for this election matches 2016's 70.56 percent, 5.87 million votes will be cast.



- Voters needing assistance locating polling places or with other voting-related questions or concerns on Election Day can call the State Board of Elections at (217) 782-4141 or (312) 814-6440. The Board of Elections website, elections.il.gov, will feature a special landing page for voter assistance beginning at midnight on Nov. 3.

("Grace" refers to votes cast during grace period registration. Voters who register in person during the grace period, which began Oct. 7, are required to vote at the time of registration. Add "Early" and "Grace" columns for total in-person early voting.)

JID	Name	ElectionDate	By-Mail	By-Mail Returned	Early	Grace
	STATEWIDE COUNTS	11/3/2020 0:00	2345954	1759245	1785747	46654
1	Adams County	11/3/2020 0:00	5956	4826	11978	379
2	Alexander County	11/3/2020 0:00	391	343	334	16
3	Bond County	11/3/2020 0:00	1583	1319	1816	64
4	Boone County	11/3/2020 0:00	6765	5632	5421	133
5	Brown County	11/3/2020 0:00	340	339	719	20
6	Bureau County	11/3/2020 0:00	4592	3662	3082	67
7	Calhoun County	11/3/2020 0:00	748	651	548	19
8	Carroll County	11/3/2020 0:00	2445	2104	1307	62
9	Cass County	11/3/2020 0:00	1164	1012	946	32
10	Champaign County	11/3/2020 0:00	30686	23546	33482	3548
11	Christian County	11/3/2020 0:00	2965	2448	2909	116
12	Clark County	11/3/2020 0:00	1142	1040	2478	72
13	Clay County	11/3/2020 0:00	1083	916	1491	66
14	Clinton County	11/3/2020 0:00	3133	2327	2135	114
15	Coles County	11/3/2020 0:00	4361	3651	6720	511
16	Cook County	11/3/2020 0:00	576048	381290	383250	7251
17	Crawford County	11/3/2020 0:00	1846	1620	2146	81
18	Cumberland County	11/3/2020 0:00	729	619	1359	43
19	DeKalb County	11/3/2020 0:00	13684	11283	16044	329
20	DeWitt County	11/3/2020 0:00	1377	1159	1557	69
21	Douglas County	11/3/2020 0:00	1639	1411	1812	65
22	DuPage County	11/3/2020 0:00	212623	156558	169821	0
23	Edgar County	11/3/2020 0:00	1521	1250	2133	81
24	Edwards County	11/3/2020 0:00	357	339	1039	37
25	Effingham County	11/3/2020 0:00	2619	2217	5076	221
26	Fayette County	11/3/2020 0:00	1503	1253	2200	99
27	Ford County	11/3/2020 0:00	1436	1138	900	59
28	Franklin County	11/3/2020 0:00	2386	1742	4875	97
29	Fulton County	11/3/2020 0:00	3467	2846	1835	86
30	Gallatin County	11/3/2020 0:00	442	391	713	23
31	Greene County	11/3/2020 0:00	1237	1055	1088	63
32	Grundy County	11/3/2020 0:00	8022	6634	6901	190
33	Hamilton County	11/3/2020 0:00	739	649	1283	44
34	Hancock County	11/3/2020 0:00	1514	1178	1286	30
35	Hardin County	11/3/2020 0:00	382	328	532	23
36	Henderson County	11/3/2020 0:00	795	697	550	16
37	Henry County	11/3/2020 0:00	7506	6164	3294	125
38	Iroquois County	11/3/2020 0:00	2795	2412	1916	108
39	Jackson County	11/3/2020 0:00	5741	4791	5388	3
40	Jasper County	11/3/2020 0:00	826	676	1446	26
41	Jefferson County	11/3/2020 0:00	3184	2627	3920	104

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42	Jersey County	11/3/2020 0:00	2457	2058	2840	103
43	JoDaviess County	11/3/2020 0:00	3982	3481	2291	74
44	Johnson County	11/3/2020 0:00	1122	1039	1934	67
45	Kane County	11/3/2020 0:00	91997	77610	92160	655
46	Kankakee County	11/3/2020 0:00	11010	8587	14184	500
47	Kendall County	11/3/2020 0:00	21078	16772	22020	300
48	Knox County	11/3/2020 0:00	2255	2007	1227	68
49	Lake County	11/3/2020 0:00	170064	108972	120733	0
50	LaSalle County	11/3/2020 0:00	13212	10496	8160	314
51	Lawrence County	11/3/2020 0:00	1317	1102	1044	53
52	Lee County	11/3/2020 0:00	3521	3155	4797	155
53	Livingston County	11/3/2020 0:00	3738	3119	2981	124
54	Logan County	11/3/2020 0:00	3377	2874	2393	100
55	Macon County	11/3/2020 0:00	12483	9927	15233	770
56	Macoupin County	11/3/2020 0:00	6947	5634	2719	110
57	Madison County	11/3/2020 0:00	34185	27689	42323	253
58	Marion County	11/3/2020 0:00	2201	1710	3713	157
59	Marshall County	11/3/2020 0:00	1432	1267	948	39
60	Mason County	11/3/2020 0:00	1190	1069	1144	44
61	Massac County	11/3/2020 0:00	887	749	1828	82
62	McDonough County	11/3/2020 0:00	3217	2738	3533	203
63	McHenry County	11/3/2020 0:00	67848	48534	63407	8
64	McLean County	11/3/2020 0:00	13527	10637	10437	860
65	Menard County	11/3/2020 0:00	1392	1233	1629	45
66	Mercer County	11/3/2020 0:00	2182	1818	1007	38
67	Monroe County	11/3/2020 0:00	5052	4429	4968	163
68	Montgomery County	11/3/2020 0:00	2956	2560	3360	136
69	Morgan County	11/3/2020 0:00	3283	3012	3421	189
70	Moultrie County	11/3/2020 0:00	1391	1111	1415	58
71	Ogle County	11/3/2020 0:00	7167	5926	5454	181
72	Peoria County	11/3/2020 0:00	34741	27717	24764	0
73	Perry County	11/3/2020 0:00	1281	1059	2548	95
74	Piatt County	11/3/2020 0:00	2551	2212	2119	88
75	Pike County	11/3/2020 0:00	1110	916	1994	107
76	Pope County	11/3/2020 0:00	360	320	724	11
77	Pulaski County	11/3/2020 0:00	352	284	357	15
78	Putnam County	11/3/2020 0:00	849	738	482	21
79	Randolph County	11/3/2020 0:00	3035	2592	1683	50
80	Richland County	11/3/2020 0:00	1464	1302	1955	87
81	Rock Island County	11/3/2020 0:00	40175	37155	3993	687
82	Saline County	11/3/2020 0:00	1991	1712	2532	92
83	Sangamon County	11/3/2020 0:00	35903	30697	19035	795
84	Schuyler County	11/3/2020 0:00	871	791	992	26
85	Scott County	11/3/2020 0:00	413	350	373	20

86	Shelby County	11/3/2020 0:00	2011	1652	1549	84
87	Stark County	11/3/2020 0:00	531	454	469	0
88	St. Clair County	11/3/2020 0:00	36839	29350	30900	1093
89	Stephenson County	11/3/2020 0:00	6548	5758	5577	208
90	Tazewell County	11/3/2020 0:00	16936	13498	16722	240
91	Union County	11/3/2020 0:00	1400	1223	2280	74
92	Vermilion County	11/3/2020 0:00	3488	2985	3792	148
93	Wabash County	11/3/2020 0:00	894	746	1399	49
94	Warren County	11/3/2020 0:00	1873	1654	1759	69
95	Washington County	11/3/2020 0:00	1482	1337	1105	45
96	Wayne County	11/3/2020 0:00	832	725	1888	70
97	White County	11/3/2020 0:00	1259	1125	1983	94
98	Whiteside County	11/3/2020 0:00	8985	7570	3455	142
99	Will County	11/3/2020 0:00	123837	97175	104335	2454
100	Williamson County	11/3/2020 0:00	6464	5501	9247	430
101	Winnebago County	11/3/2020 0:00	23055	17768	15079	457
102	Woodford County	11/3/2020 0:00	4440	3822	3865	0
104	City of Bloomington	11/3/2020 0:00	23852	13022	15335	0
105	City of Chicago	11/3/2020 0:00	505572	402762	337138	17628
106	City of Danville	11/3/2020 0:00	2267	1982	3502	0
107	City of East St Louis	11/3/2020 0:00	3658	3035	1179	98
108	City of Galesburg	11/3/2020 0:00	4720	3978	3485	116
110	City of Rockford	11/3/2020 0:00	21673	16820	15120	720